

# DOLL MAN

10¢

*Quarterly*  
WINTER ISSUE

**WANTED**

"THE DOLLMAN"

ALIAS DARREL DANE...



BY ORDER OF THE POLICE COMMISSIONER

**4 DYNAMIC  
STORIES**

THE DOLLS of DEATH  
WANTED for SABOTAGE  
THE CIRCUS of TEARS  
DOCTOR THIRTEEN



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UNIVERSE.COM**







*The*  
**DOLLMAN**  
WANTED FOR  
**SABOTAGE**



After each day, the sun slowly drops over a distant horizon; long shadows spread over the earth a man's day ends... and we experience Twilight! After that, come those hours which bring dread to the hearts of many... that time when the cloak of darkness settles over us, and we watch breathlessly the falling curtain of **THE NIGHT!**



TIME PASSES EVER SO QUICKLY... EVEN BEFORE WE COULD BEGIN THIS STORY, DOLLMAN WAS ON THE TRAIL OF SUSPECTED SABOTEURS... TRAITORS TO AMERICA! LET'S LOOK IN... AND SEE WHAT TAKES PLACE...



THE LEADER, A STRANGE MAN KNOWN ONLY AS THE NIGHT, BREWED UP A DEADLY EXPLOSIVE...



AT THAT MOMENT COMES SHALLETT BUT NIGHTST FIGHTER DASHES FROM HIDING...







A MOMENT LATER AFTER THE WILLIAMS HAVE MADE THEIR WAY TO SAFETY, THE METAL WORKS GO UP IN A SHIVERING BLAST!!

A SMALL FIGURE LIES SILENTLY IN THE RUINS...



THE LAW ARRIVES...!

THIS WAY, MEN! THERE SOMEONE IS STILL IN THERE!

KEEP THOSE HORSES ON THE FLAMES, MEN!



WE-ELL! LOOK WHAT'S HERE!



YA DON'T THINK...

WHY NOT? IT WAS SABOTAGE WASN'T IT? DOLLMAN IS HERE, AIN'T HE?



**GUILTY!**

THE DOLL MAN DID IT!

THE DOLL MAN BLEW UP THE PLANT!!



WH...WHAT HAPPENED?... MY HEAD FEELS AWFULLY HEAVY!











AS THOUGH BY MAGIC DOLL-MAN VANISHES AND DARREL DANE SPRINGS UP TO TAKE HIS PLACE.

UNT PARDON ME!

VULPS!



DID YOU SEE WHAT I SAW? WHERE DID HE COME FROM?

I DUNNO! I DUNNO!



THE MORNING PAPERS MET THE STREET CARRYING STRANGE HEADLINES...

DOLLMAN WANTED BY POLICE!!

DOLLMAN SOUGHT BY AUTHORITIES! BIG REWARD FOR HIS ARREST!

AMAZING CRIME-FIGHTER TURNS TRAITOR!



AND IN A SWINK MID-TOWN CAFE

AND NOW LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, OUR NEXT NUMBER WILL BE...



UNTIL WE BRING YOU A SPECIAL NEWS FLASH FROM THE WIRES OF O.R., DOLLMAN IS WANTED BY THE POLICE!



MEANWHILE AT DARREL'S APARTMENT HE AND MARTHA ROBERTS, HIS FIANCÉE LISTEN TO THE REPORTS...

THE PUBLIC IS SHOCKED BY THE REACTIONS OF DOLLMAN... UNTIL NOW IT WAS THOUGHT THAT HE WAS A FRIEND... BUT WE ARE WARNED THAT HE IS A DEADLY ENEMY ALIEN...

TURN IT OFF DARREL! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!









WILDERNESS AND UNWELCOME  
ONCE...



DAT AINT  
NO DWARF!  
DAT'S 2'  
DOLL MAN!





AGAIN THE NIGHT ESCAPES... IN THE VERY FACE OF THE BLAST!



AS THE FLAMES SUBSIDE, THE POLICEMEN ARRIVE ON THE SCENE, AND ONCE AGAIN FIND THE DOLL MAN!







HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF ONCE MORE. THE DOLL MAN IS REVENGED ONLY TO FIND HIMSELF...



IN PRISON!



I CAN'T FIGURE THIS OUT! EVERYTIME I TRAIL THE NIGHT, I GET READY TO SMASH HIS MOB... AND I WAKE UP IN JAIL! SOMETHING AWFULLY SCREWY IS GOING ON!



I'LL SAY SOMETHING SCREWY IS GOING ON! WE THOUGHT YOU WERE OUR PAL, DOLL MAN! WHY DID YOU TURN RAT ON US?

RAT! RAT! I... I DON'T UNDERSTAND!!



WE CAUGHT YA BLOWIN' UP THOSE PLANTS AND IT AINT GORNA BE EASY WITH YOU! YA KNOW WHAT THEY DO TO TRAITORS IN WAR TIME, DON'T YA?

AWAY WITH HIM!



READ ALL ABOUT IT!

THE DOLL MAN CAUGHT BY POLICE!

TRIAL COMING UP SOON

WUXTRY



THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OF BEATING THE NIGHT... IF I COULD ONLY STAY CLEAR OF THAT DREAM GAS!



I CAN STAY CLEAR OF THE GAS!... I'VE FOUND A WAY TO GET OUT AND STOP HIM!





THE DOLL MAN IS NO MORE...  
IN HIS PLACE STANDS DARRELL DAVE







I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT. FIRST HE'S HERE... AND THEN HE'S GONE! THE DOLL MAN CERTAINLY IS A MAGICIAN!!



MEANWHILE THE NIGHT NIGHT MISSED A TRICK. HE REAPS OF THE DOLL MAN'S ESCAPE AND IS ALREADY FORMULATING A GHASTLY PLAN...

DAVID'S  
FORGONE



GATHER ROUND, CHILDREN WHILE THE NIGHT MAKES HIS MASTER COUL... BRATTLE... CHUCKLE

WHAT NOW, BOSS... THE DOLL MAN'S OUTA THE CAN... WHAT CAN WE DO?



I'M GOING TO RUIN THE DOLL MAN ONCE AND FOR ALL! I'LL DEAL MY ACE IN THE HOLE... AND I WILL FINISH HIM FOREVER!



ATTENTION, EVERYBODY! THIS IS THE DOLL MAN SPEAKING... I'VE ESCAPED FROM PRISON AND I WILL GET MY REVENGE!



THE STRANGE RADIO BROADCAST IS PICKED UP IN EVERY HOME...

I'M GOING TO BLOW THE GREAT BRUIN MAMMOTH WORKS TO BITS... I'LL LEVEL THAT GREAT PLANT TO ASHES!

GREAT GUNS! THE DOLL MAN MUST BE STARK MAD!



TURN IT OFF! HE'S CRAZIER THAN A BAT!

WHEREVER, TONIGHT THE DOLL MAN WILL DESTROY THE BRUIN MAMMOTH WORKS AND I DEFY THE COPS TO STOP ME!

SEE... AND WE THOUGHT THE DOLL MAN WAS OUR FANT!



THE MAYOR IS IRATE...



I WANT A HUNDRED MEN SURROUNDING THAT FACTORY AND THE DOLL MAN BETTER BE CAPTURED!

YES, YOUR HONOR!

AT THE SABOTAGE DEN...



SEE BOSS... YOU GAVE OUR PLANS AWAY! THE COPS'LL GET US!!

ROOK OF A MAN! THE COPS WILL GET THE DOLL MAN NOT US... LISTEN CLOSELY... HERE'S WHAT WE WILL DO!

WE'LL USE OUR USUAL METHOD OF GETTING IN... BY UNDERGROUND. THE DOLL MAN WILL BE SURE TO BE THERE... AND I'LL GIVE HIM A DOSE OF THE DREAM GAS DURING THE CONFUSION... I'LL SHOOT HIM... AND THE COPS WILL GET A CORPSE...



YOU SEE... FROM THEN ON... THE DOLL MAN WILL BE NO MORE... HE WILL HAVE DIED A VILLAIN AND A RAT... (CHUCKLE, CHUCKLE) THE NIGHT ALWAYS PLAYS A WINNING HAND!!



LATE THAT NIGHT THE BRICK MUNITION WORKS IS A VERITABLE FORTRESS OF POLICEMEN



THE INSIDE THE SILENT FACTORY THINGS BEGINS TO HEAR...



PEST... EVERYBODY QUIET!!

THE NIGHT COMES AGAIN...



OKAY... GET READY FOR THE BIG SHOW!!

THIS IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!

AND WE CAN'T LOSE!



BOYS... THIS IS ONE NIGHT YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY!



I'VE BEEN POOLED... HE'S WEARING A MASK!







# The DOLL MAN



WHO OF US DOES NOT SHIVER A LITTLE WHEN A BLACK CAT CROSSES OUR PATH... OR HEAR A HORROR STORY... OR READ A SCARY BOOK... OR HEAR THE 13TH FLOOR ABOUT SUPERSTITION... YES... OF SO THEY THOUGHT... ON THE 13TH FLOOR OF THE JINKS BUILDING LIVED AN ALARMING SORT OF APPRENTICE ALL LOVED UP TO THE... **THE CURSE OF THIRTEEN!** AND THAT WAS THAT GHOSTLY FORM THAT STALKED THROUGH THE HALLS BRINGING BAD LUCK AND DEATH WITHIN ONLY 13... **THE THIRTEEN!** THAT WAS THE QUESTION THAT EVEN CHILLED THE HEARTS OF THE 13TH FLOOR OF THE JINKS BUILDING THE NIGHTS LONG!

QUEST: DEBUNKING CITIZEN GEORGE DANE ENTERS A BUILDING... ONE OF MANY IN A GREAT CITY.

THE JINKS BUILDING IS WHERE DR. ROBERTS TOLD ME TO MEET HIM.







IN THE HALL, DARREL DAVE HEARS THE VOICE...

CALLING FOR HELP! THAT'S THE CUE FOR THE DOLL MAN!



THE WORLD AT LARGE DOESN'T KNOW THAT QUIET CITIZEN DARREL DAVE CAN TRANSFORM HIMSELF INTO ANOTHER FORM - THE MIGHTY DOLL MAN!



IM IN A HURRY! SO...



THE BODY SO... THE BUS SO... AND EVERYONE WILL SAY HE TRIPPED AND BROKE HIS NECK! JUST BAD LUCK!



THE TINY BURY BLAZES INTO ACTION!

HERE'S SOME BAD LUCK FOR YOU, PUL!



DE THIRTEEN WHOLE AROUND...



WHO HIT ME? WHERE ARE YOU? NO MATTER HOW BIG YOU ARE, I'LL CRACK YOUR SKULL!

ANGRY? THEN THIS WILL MAKE YOU SEE RED!



GLUP! SPUTTER!





DR. THIRTEEN'S SPINED CLUB DESCENDED, BUT WHEN DOLL MAN IS ALREADY AWAY!

YOU LITTLE  
BIMBUK, I'LL  
FLATTEN YOU!

TALK  
IS  
CHEAP.



WHEN YOU'VE  
HAD ENOUGH  
BLUE EYES...I'M  
TAKING YOU TO  
THE POLICE!

BEATEN BY THE HALF-PINT  
MURDERER, DR. THIRTEEN CASH-  
PULTE OUT OF THE WINDOW...

OH NO, YOU  
AREN'T!



DOLL MAN HASTILY PERS  
OUT, BUT TO HIS SURPRISE  
HE SEES  
NOTHING.



WELL, I'LL  
BE IF HE JUST  
VANISHED!

HE'N' FLUTTERED  
AGAINST THE WALL,  
HE DIDN'T SEE  
HE'N' HA' HA!  
HE!



AND DR. THIRTEEN LIKE A  
HUMAN, FLY CRABS MURDERER  
AT TOWARD ANOTHER WINDOW!

NOW TO  
VISIT ANOTHER  
ROOM OF  
THE  
THIRTEENTH  
FLOOR!!



MEANWHILE, POLICE ANSWER A  
PHONE CALL FROM DARRYL DAVE,  
WHO HAS REPORTED AN UNUSUAL SUE!

ACCIDENTAL  
DEATH...TRIPPED  
ON THE RUG...  
POOR FELLOW!

IT'S  
PROBLY  
THE 1ST  
SANTS  
PRESERVE  
US!



NO! IT WAS NOT  
ACCIDENTAL...IT WAS...

BE'N' KEEP  
THE MOUTH...  
THEY WOULDN'T  
BELIEVE  
HE!





A MOMENT LATER, DAREdevil ONCE AGAIN TELESCOPES HIMSELF INTO THE WALL.



BUT DOLL MAN HAD BETTER PERP THROUGH A FEW KEY HOLES, OR THIRTEEN MIGHT STRIKE AGAIN!

ANOTHER OFFICE ON THE 13TH FLOOR...



IT'S RIGHT THE 13TH FLOOR! YOU HON'T GET YOUR RAISE!

YOU BELLS CAN'T SCARE ME... I'M GOING TO TRY!

BUT FIRST I'LL PRETTY UP A LITTLE FOR THE BOSS... MELT HIS HEART...

TAKE A LETTER SALLY!



OH YES SIR... ER... WAS ONLY... BEN? WHO ARE YOU??

DR THIRTEEN THE SPIRIT OF BAD LUCK, GIRLEY!



DEET THIS HORROR JUST BROKE... SEVEN YEARS BAD LUCK FOR YOU!



ALL IN ONE MOMENT HA HA HA!



BUT A VERY UNNOTICED FINGER LEAPS FROM THE TRAYSDOM.

ANOTHER "ACCIDENTAL" DEATH IN THE MAKING! AM I HERE'S JUST WHAT I NEED TO STOP IT!

















IN THE SPACE OF A SECOND  
DABDEL, CHANGING TO THE  
DOLL MAN, TAKES UP THE  
CHASE—

THESE TELEPHONE  
WIRING SURE  
HELP OUT!



MEANWHILE, THE SINISTER DR. THIRTEEN CARRIES  
A STRUGGLING GUY TO AN UNKNOWN ROOM...

EEEEEE!



I'LL TAKE THIS  
ELEVATOR!



BUT, BEFORE THE DOORS  
COULDED SHUT—

TOO LATE TO  
GET IN THE CAR,  
BUT THIS  
CABLE WILL  
HELP!



THE CABLE BRINGS TO  
A STOP AT THE TERRACE  
AND...

THERE HE  
GOES...OUT  
ON THE  
BALCONY!



HEARTLESS DR. THIRTEEN PREPARES  
TO DISPOSE OF HIS VICTIM...

PLEASE...PLEASE...  
DON'T!



BUT, SUDDENLY A POCKET-SIZE PISTOL FLASHES  
LIKE A BULLET, INTO THE CHEST OF  
DR. THIRTEEN!!









MEANWHILE DOLL MAN TUMBLES DOWN, EVEN HIS GREAT COURAGE QUAILS AS THE DIZZY DEPTHS REEL BY WITH EVER-INCREASING SPEED.



BUT A PIGEON FLIES BY AND THE ABILE MANHUNTER IS QUICK TO SEIZE AN OPPORTUNITY...



THE DOLL MAN LEAPS FROM HIS FEATHERED STEED TO A LEDGE ON THE 13TH FLOOR...



LATER, AS DR. DREDD DAVE, IN THE HALLWAY OF THE PLANNED 13TH FLOOR...

I'M GOING AT THIS WAGON, I SHOULD FIND DR. THIRTEEN'S HIDEOUT, AND TWO TO ONE IT'S RIGHT ON THIS FLOOR SOMEWHERE...



SOMEONE'S COMING!









THE MANNING OF NIGHT  
EXHITS HIS FULL POWERS...



HOW ABOUT A  
LITTLE AIRPLANE  
SPIN?

STOP IT NOW!  
I'M DIZZY!



PLEASANT  
DREAMS!



THE BEARDED MAN TRIES TO  
ESCAPE, MEANWHILE...

IT'S BETTER GET  
OUT, OUT, WHILE  
I HAVE THE  
CHANCE!

THAT'S WHAT  
YOU THINK,  
MISTER!



WE'VE GOT DR. THIRTEEN,  
WHO IS THIS BIRD?

MARTIN GORMAN,  
RENTING AGENT  
AND OWNER OF  
THE EVEREST  
BUILDING ACROSS  
THE STREET!



MY BUILDING WAS HALF  
EMPTY AND LOSING  
MONEY. I FIGURED I  
COULD SCARE AWAY  
TENANTS FROM THE JENKS  
BUILDING AND REAP  
IT IN. SO I HIRED DR.  
THIRTEEN, ONE OF THE  
UNDERWORLD'S  
CLEVEREST  
KILLERS!



HEY LOOK! DR. THIRTEEN...  
HE'S GONE!

WHA!... THAT  
MEANS THE PITHS  
OF DOLL MAN AND  
DR. THIRTEEN ARE  
GOING TO CROSS  
AGAIN, SOME  
DAY!







SERGEANT RED HEDRAW, THE ONLY MARINE TO ESCAPE SHANGHAI, LEADS A BAND OF HARD FIGHTING CHINESE GUERRILLAS AGAINST THE BUTCHERING HORDES OF JAPAN. THE ADHERING CHINESE CALL HIM THE DRAGON AFTER THE EMBLEM OF THEIR COUNTRY.

FROM A CAPTURED AIRFIELD INSIDE CHINA THE JAPS BLAST AT THE DRAGON WITH ONE BOMBING ATTACK.





I HAVE A PLAN  
AND IF WE PLAN  
IT SMART WE CAN  
SMASH THEIR  
PLANES!

OUR JOB IS TO  
PRESENT THE JAPS  
WITH THIS RICE  
WINE - THE DRAGON  
SMART PLAN!

OUR ARMY BRIGGS  
KNOW WE ARE  
FIFTH COLUMNISTS  
SO THEY  
THINK!

AT THE AIRFIELD

TWO FIGURES  
APPROACH!

HOLD FIRE!  
THEY LOOK LIKE  
JAPANESE CHINESE  
WELL-MEN!

WINE FOR THE  
CONQUERING  
SONS OF  
HEAVEN!

WE THINK REMAIN  
UNTIL WINE IS TESTED  
THEN SUPERIOR OFFICER  
HAVE FIRST DRINK!

THIS WINE IS EX-  
CELLANT! WE WILL  
CELEBRATE OUR  
LATEST VICTORY  
OVER THE DRAGON  
AND TORTURE A  
FEW PRISONERS!

UGH! THEY  
CELEBRATE IN  
TYPICAL JAP  
FASHION!

LET US DEPART.  
OUR PART IS  
DONE!

WHY THAT  
WINE WAS  
GOOD NOW  
WE GUARD  
PLANES!

WE FEEL SLEEPY  
WISH TO DREAM  
OF NAGASAKI!

FINE! THE WINE  
HAS CAUGHT UP WITH  
THEM - NOW IS OUR  
CHANCE!

FIRST WE'LL PUT THESE  
RYTS TO SLEEP  
FOR GOOD!

WE'LL  
USE THEIR  
UNIFORMS!









A SURPRISE NIGHT  
RAID! ORDER ALL  
PLANES OFF THE  
GROUND BEFORE  
THEY ARE  
DESTROYED!

CURSE THE DRAGON!  
THIS IS HIS WORK - AND  
THE PARTY WAS GETTING  
GOOD!

IT TOO  
MUCH  
WINE!

THEY'RE TAKING OFF -  
THEY DIDN'T GET  
WISE!

THE RICE  
WINE MADE  
THEM  
CARELESS!



BUT AS THE PLANES TAKE OFF THE CABLE PULLE TIGHT  
AND THEY CRASH INTO HEAPS OF FLAMING METAL COBBLES!









# America - It's Worth Defending

## THE \$22,500.00 SALVO

WHEN THE U.S.S. NORTH CAROLINA FIRES ITS NINE 16-INCH GUNS TOGETHER IT SENDS 10 TONS OF METAL A DISTANCE OF 20 MILES AND COSTS THE GOVERNMENT AS MUCH AS IT PAYS HENRY A WALLACE TO SERVE AS VICE-PRESIDENT FOR 1 1/2 YEARS.









ending!

Feg Murray



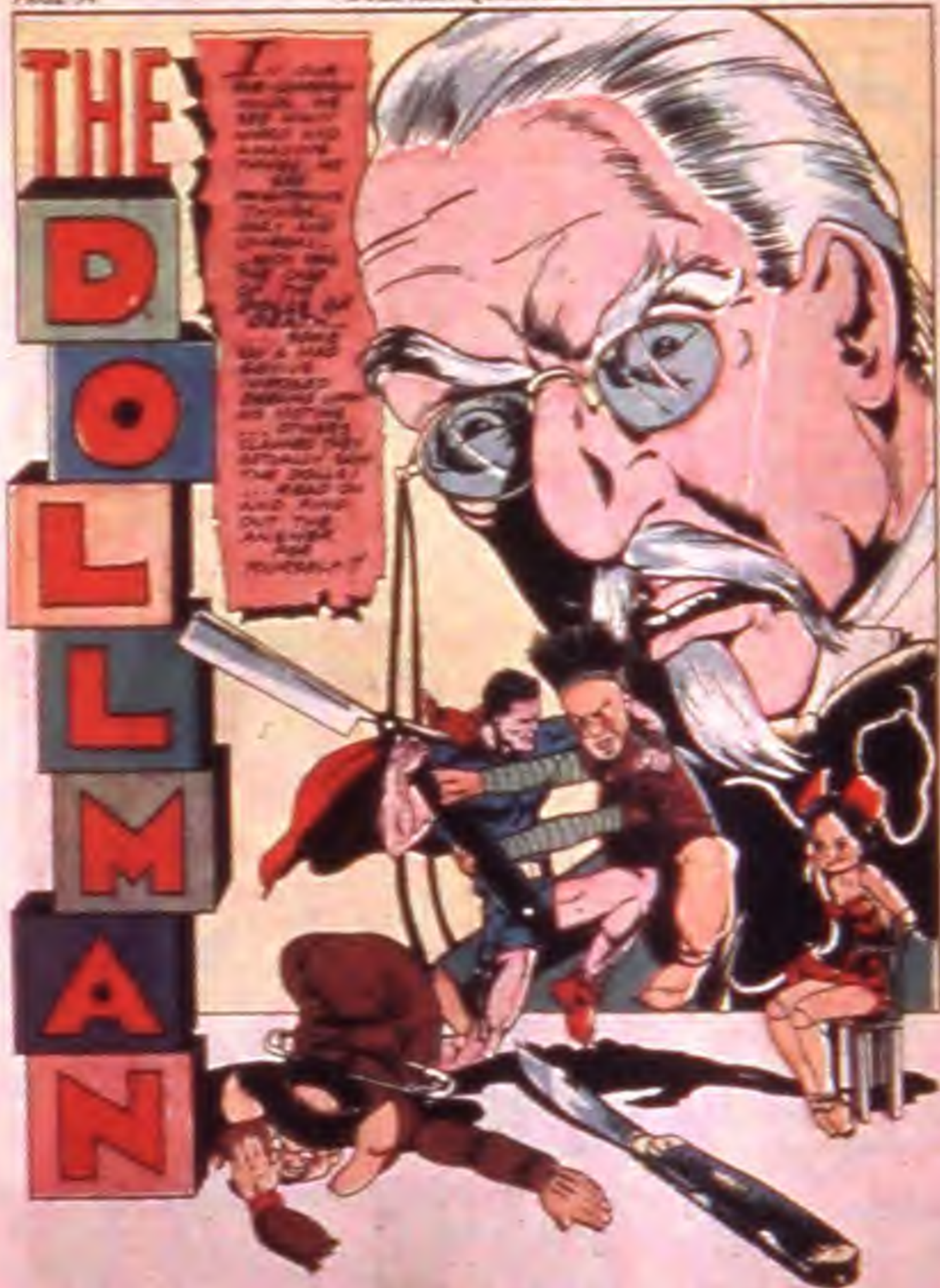
**LIBERTY'S  
HAND AND TORCH  
HAVE BEEN IN AMERICA  
8 YEARS LONGER  
THAN THE REST  
OF THE STATUE!**

(THE FOREARM, ETC. WAS  
SENT TO PHILADELPHIA IN 1876,  
THEN MOVED TO NEW YORK  
CITY WHERE IT REMAINED  
UNTIL 1884, THEN RETURNED  
TO FRANCE TO BE PLACED  
ON THE COMPLETED STATUE)

ONE OF THE FINGERNAILS  
OF THE STATUE OF LIBERTY  
IS APPROXIMATELY  
THE SAME SIZE AS  
THIS CARTOON —  
10 X 13 INCHES.  
(CARTOON 9 X 14 INS.)

**STEPHEN DECATUR,**  
HERO OF THE TRIPOLITAN  
CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE BAR-  
BARY PIRATES IN 1815, NEVER  
DREAMED THAT THE NEXT TIME  
UNITED STATES MILITARY  
POWER WOULD BE FELT IN THE  
MEDITERRANEAN IT WOULD  
COME FROM THE SKY!  
(127 YRS LATER, IN JUNE 1942,  
US BOMBERS ATTACKED AN  
ITALIAN FLEET NEAR MALTA)







A MAN WALKS INTENTLY IN FRONT OF THE WHITEHART THEATRE. HE HAS BEEN STANDING ALL HOUR WAITING TO SEE THE GREAT MURKO!



AH, YOU'RE MURKO, THE GREAT MAGICIAN! PLEASURE!



YES, BUT SOMEONE ELSE, (AND MURKO?) WHAT DO YOU WANT?

NOT MONEY, JUST FAHES!



SAV! YOU BEGGARS ARE ALL ALIKE?

WENT... I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOUR ACT! PLEASE LISTEN TO ME!



SOMETHING FOR MY ACT, EH?... UM... THAT'S DIFFERENT!

IM SO GLAD! JUST WATCH MY DOLLS... JNT WATCH!



STEADILY ENOUGH THE AMAZINGLY LITTLE DOLLS BEGIN DANCING...

HAVE YOU GOT THEM WOUND UP ON A SPRING?



HEL! NOT SPRINGS! THE LIVE AND BREATHING! THEY'RE MY... CREATION!

INTERESTING, VERY INTERESTING, AND HOW WILL THEY FIT INTO MY ACT?



YOU'RE GIVING AN ARMY BENEFIT PERFORMANCE, GOOD! MY DOLLS WILL SEEM AN ACT OF MAGIC. THEY WILL THROLL THE AUDIENCE... I WANT NOTHING... JUST THAT MY DOLLS ARE... BE... BECOME FAMOUS!

GOOD ENOUGH, OLD MAN! I SHALL USE THEM TONIGHT!





THE DOLLS ARE LEFT WITH MARION... AND THE STRANGER MAKES HIS WAY TO A GABBY APARTMENT...



A PICTURE SWINGS BACK FROM THE HALL REVEALING A SECRET HIDING PLACE...



NOW I'M ALONE... I'VE GOT TO ACT SWIFTLY!

A SPECIAL PRIZE CONNECTION WITH BERLIN!

I DID IT! I INDUCED THE MAGICIAN TO USE THE DOLLS!

WELL... HAS ANYTHING HAPPENED YET??

NOT YET, HERR HITLER! THE BIG SHOW IS TONIGHT, BUT THE GENERAL WILL SURELY DIE THEN...

SAW! DON'T BOTHER ME WITH GUESSES! WAIT UNTIL HE'S DEAD... THEN CALL ME... GOODBYE!



THAT NIGHT THE WHITENRY THEATRE IS FLOCKED BY CURIOUS CUSTOMERS WHO ARE ANXIOUS TO SEE MARION, THE GREAT PERFORMER!



I'M SURPRISED AT YOU DARREL! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE INTERESTED IN JUST PLAIN MAGIC SHOWS.

WITH GENERAL CASWELL HERE IT'S NOT JUST A PLAIN SHOW!



WELL, SO THAT'S IT! YOU THINK THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN HERE!

CAN'T EVER TELL!



TWO PLEASE!

ON THE STAGE ARE DARREL CASE AND HIS FIANCÉE, MARTHA ROBERTS







THEN THE HIBID DOLLS BEGIN DANCING NEAR THE EDGE OF THE STAGE... AND...



AS THOUGH DRAWN BY MAGIC, THEY DANCE THEIR WAY DOWN THE STEPS!









































# HEART OF A MILER

I HADN'T seen Savard since we ran the mile together at Western. I'd never liked him then. I didn't suppose I'd like him now. But he recognized me and I went down beside the track to speak to him.

"I hear you've turned up a miler," I said.

"Tonight," Savard answered. "Murphy is going to break the indoor record. This is Murphy's last race."

Savard had never been much of a miler himself. I understood why he was so interested in Murphy. He would use Murphy's performance to salve his wounded ego.

The timers came down onto the track and the last call went out for the mile. Murphy moved around the track officials and then, for the first time, I saw the other kid in Western colors.

"Who's the second guy?" I asked.

Savard shrugged. "His name is Ellison. Understand, now, I've got nothing to do with him. He talked the officials into letting him enter. You remember old Bill Ellison?"

"The only Western miler ever to hold the record."

"That's his son," Savard said. "He thinks he's got a chance."

"Has he?" I was interested.

Savard scowled. "Don't be silly. Look at his build. Short and dumpy. If he tries to follow the pace, he'll fold at the end of the first quarter."

Savard went over to talk to Murphy, but he nodded for me to wait. Murphy looked good. He was a tall, slender kid with nice legs. His eyes were confident.

The gun went off and Murphy set a blistering pace and got the pole. Savard came back and his eyes were glazing.

"We've planned everything," Savard said. His voice was that of the perfectionist, low, confident, close to my ear. "He'll do the first quarter in sixty. The second in sixty-one. Tonight, he'll leave all of his race on the track. He'll run through the tape and when it's over, he'll fall on his face. That's the way a mile should be run. Pour everything into the race and when it's over, you've got nothing left."

I watched the clock and I watched Murphy. At the quarter, he was a tenth under sixty.

"If he can keep that up," I admitted, "he's got a new record."

Savard seemed amazed that I should have even the slightest doubt. "He'll keep it up," he promised. "He's been groomed for this race. Scientifically. His diet has been right. His body is like a well-tuned motor. He knows his pace and what he must do. He'll do it."

I thought, for an instant, that Savard probably had a string of test tubes up there where his brain was supposed to be. The man was talking like a mad scientist. Still, he'd apparently left nothing for granted. I could imagine him, sitting beside the track, watching Murphy run, checking a long list of things upon a chart. That was Savard. The perfectionist.

The second quarter was an even sixty. Murphy was still out front. I glanced at young Ellison and I almost laughed. He

was foundering along in last place, fifty yards back. His stride was short and a little jerky. And then I saw his face. The grimace of it, the seriousness of it.

I didn't laugh. There was something about him. . . .

A reporter walked past us. "Murphy's running himself a race, Savard. But that other kid of yours is in trouble."

Savard's eyes were hostile and I could see something else. Savard, trying to argue young Ellison out of running. And Ellison, standing right up to Savard, telling him he wanted to run. I wondered if Ellison's old man were watching. Poor guy, if he was.

Savard was saying, "I'm not responsible for Ellison's racing. He never did better than four-eleven. I told him he was no runner. I didn't waste time on him. Look at Murphy. He did the third quarter in sixty-three. Now watch the last one."

Even though I hated Savard I had to admit that he had done well with Murphy. Murphy was lengthening his stride, rolling into the turn. Everything about him was perfect. His body motion, his stride, everything.

A Notre Dame boy began to move up. He challenged Murphy in the backstretch. But Murphy didn't even know the guy was there. At least, he didn't change stride. He just kept rolling and then, on the next turn, the Notre Dame runner dropped back, muscle bound by his own burst of effort. Murphy went smoothly around the turn.

And then I noticed Ellison. His stride was shorter, chop-







# Fala Palooza







COME ON, KIDS...  
THE CIRCUS IS IN TOWN.  
THE DOLL MAN WITES YOU ALL  
TELEPHONING... BUT THE CIRCUS  
MAY BE A LITTLE DIFFERENT...  
YOU ASK HOW IT OK... IT SHALL  
HAVE THE USUAL MIDWAY OR JOY...  
THE RING OF LAUGHTER... THE ANIMALS  
AND THE CLOWNS... AH YEE THE  
CLOWNS... A PITY THAT LAUGHING SHOULD  
BE AN UNUSUAL CLOWN... AND YET ITS  
ONLY NATURAL THAT EVEN A CLOWN  
WOULD HAVE EMOTIONS IN HIS HEART  
LIKE LOVE, LAUGHTER, REVENGE  
HATRED... AND MURDER (IT SOUNDS)  
...DON'T BE... THE DOLL MAN WILL BE  
WITH YOU ON YOUR ADVENTURE...  
SO GO AHEAD AND READ THE  
TALE OF THE

*"CIRCUS of DEATH"*

The  
METRO-  
POLITAN  
OPERA HOUSE  
ONCE HELD  
THOUSANDS OF  
PEOPLE, AND  
WAS KNOWN FAR  
AND WIDE FOR ITS  
MANY OPERAS AND  
WORLD-WIDE PER-  
FORMANCES. LONG  
SINCE IT HAS FALLEN  
INTO SHAMBLES AND  
DECAY AND IT IS NOW CALLED  
THE GHOST HOUSE...

ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES  
YOU WILL SEE WHY...



INSIDE THE CARRIA HOUSE,  
A LONG FIGURE THROBLES  
DOWN THE DUSTY AISLE...



...IT IS LAUGHING THE CLOWN,  
SLOWLY HE CLIMBS  
UP ON THE GREAT STAIR...



HA! THE SAME BUILDING...  
THE SAME KIND OF A NIGHT...  
IT SEEMS ONLY YESTERDAY  
THAT I STOOD HERE FACING  
A HUGE CROWD!



I WAS LAUGHING  
THE GREAT IN  
THOSE DAYS. PEOPLE  
DIDN'T KNOW THE  
MISERY WITHIN ME.  
HA, HA, HA! THEY  
SAID IT WAS MY  
JOB TO MAKE THEM  
LAUGH!



YES AND I MADE  
THEM ROCK WITH  
LAUGHTER. WHILE I  
BOBBED WITH DESPAIR,  
THE CROWD LAUGHED.  
HA, HA, HA! BUT  
THAT WAS BEFORE...



THE CURSE  
CAME!



YES, BEFORE THE  
CURSE OF DEATH  
STRUCK. SINCE THEN  
EVERY SHOW HAS  
PRODUCED AT LEAST  
ONE DEATH. AND  
NOW THE CIRCUS  
IS MOVING IN...  
I WONDER WHAT  
WILL HAPPEN??



BUT WHY SHOULD  
I WORRY. IM CRYING  
THE CLOWN. ILL MAKE  
YOU LAUGH THOUGH  
I HAVE A BROKEN  
HEART. ILL MAKE  
YOU LAUGH!!

LAUGHING IS ALONE AND NO ONE SEES THE  
GLIMMERING TEARS FALL FROM HIS EYES...  
HE TURNS AND DEPARTS INTO THE NIGHT.





THEY TAKE LEAVE OF LAUBHO FOR A MOMENT AND TURN TO A SMALL ROOM IN A NEARBY HOTEL HERE JUDGE KABAL, CIRCUS OWNER, CHATS WITH HIS SHADY MANAGER... LEOPARD MILLER...



I TELL YA, BOSS... IT'S A CINCH... IF WE CAN RENT THAT OLD OPERA HOUSE FOR THE SHOW... WE'RE IN THE MONEY!

BUT WHAT?

I CAN'T AGREE WITH YOU... LEOPARD, TRUE YOU'VE ALWAYS HANDLED THINGS IN... A PROFITABLE MANNER... BUT



IT'S HAUNTED, LEOPARD, THE DRATTED PLACE TAKES ITS TOLL OF DEATH EVERY TIME A SHOW OPENS INSIDE ITS BLOOMY WALLS!

BOSS! THEY ONLY THINK IT'S A CURSE, JUDGE... THAT'S WHERE WE COME IN!

SO ON, LEOPARD... OR LISTENING!

WELL, EVERYBODY LOVES A MYSTERY, DON'T THEY? EVERYBODY'S ACHING TO SEE A SHOW OPEN UP IN THE OLD BUILDING... AND EVERYBODY WILL COME TO SEE ONE!

SET IT, BOSS? WE'LL DEFEAT THE CURSE!! WE'LL RUN THE CIRCUS IN THE OLD OPERA HOUSE... THEY'LL FLOCK LIKE FLIES AFTER HONEY... WE CAN'T MISS!

I HATE TO GIVE IN TO LEOPARD, BUT YOU WIN... MOVE YOUR SHOW IN TONIGHT!



THAT'S SWELL, JUDGE, BUT WE MOVED IN AN HOUR AGO... TONIGHT?

YOU MOVED IN AN HOUR...?

WELL, THAT'S THAT! WE'VE GOT THE OPERA HOUSE FOR ONE WEEK... A CRRRAZY IDEA... BUT IF LEOPARD SAYS SO, IT'S OKAY BY ME!

I'M JUST HOPEING THE CURSE DOESN'T STRIKE... BUT WE'LL SEE... WE'LL SEE...

LEOPARD MILLER WORKS FAST... THE OLD GHOST HOUSE RETURNS TO LIFE!























OKAY! WE'LL FORGET WHAT HAPPENED. I'LL HAVE THE POLICE DOWN TOMORROW TO CATCH LASHING. EVERYBODY GET TO THE TENTS AND GET SOME SLEEP. THE SHOW OPENS TOMORROW!

OH, AH... YOUR BEDTIME, PAUL. LATE, ISN'T IT?

YES, GUSSE IT IS... SEE YOU TOMORROW.

ONE MOMENT PLEASE... DELILAH!

??

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN SO SOON, MY DEAR T... I'M STILL WAITING FOR YOUR ANSWER!

LEONARD... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY... YOU KNOW THAT I'M... I'M...

YEAH... I KNOW! YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH THAT FANCY DAN MONKEY, BUT YA' AINT GIVING ME THE RUN AROUND!

PLEASE...! LET'S DISCUSS IT SOME OTHER TIME...!

OKAY... SOME OTHER TIME!

IF THERE IS ANOTHER TIME!

WELL! HOW MANY OF THESE LUGS ARE IN LOVE WITH THIS GAL?!

ALL IS QUIET IN THE VAST ARENA. A TINY FIGURE MAKES HIS WAY TO THE CENTER AND LEAPS FOR AN OVERHANGING ROPE.

THEY'VE ALL LEFT. NOW I CAN FINISH THE INVESTIGATION!!



YES... I ALL HAVE SOME EXCEPT ONE!



THAT SETTLES IT... JACKSON WAS MURDERED!



BUT THE MURDERER WAS AFTER PAHL... AND HE MISSED... NO DOUBT HE WILL HANG AROUND TO SEE IF HE CAN STILL GET RID OF PAHL... THAT'S WHY THE SHOW SHOULD BECOME MORE INTERESTING



DISAPPEARING FROM THE EMPTY SHADY ARENA...

BE BACK TOMORROW... WHEN THE SHOW OPENS!



ANA!! THEN THERE WAS A TINY MAN! BUT HE WON'T BE OF ANY BOTHER... NOT AFTER I FINISH WITH HIM!





**LAUGHO!**

**BIG CIRCUS**

**OPENS TODAY!**

**DELILAH...**  
The Beautiful

**PAHL...**  
OF THE STRATSMORE

**FIVE Big Animal Acts**

ON COME THE PEOPLE...  
FLOCKING FROM FAR AND  
NEAR... ONE ATTRACTION  
IS THE CIRCUS... THE OTHER...  
THE CURSE!



DARREL,  
I'M ALMOST  
AFRAID OF  
THIS PLACE!

DON'T BE...  
THIS CURSE  
STUFF  
IS ALL  
HOOEY!!



STAY HERE,  
MARTHA... I'VE  
GOT TO SEE A  
PAL OF MINE I  
JUST SPOTTED  
DOWN BELOW!

DON'T  
BE LONG!



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!  
THE BIG SHOW IS ON! FIRST ON  
THE PROGRAM IS A DARING  
LADY WHO RIDES WILD HORSES!  
WE PRE-SENT



DELILAH



IF I CAN'T  
HAVE HER...  
NOBODY CAN!



THE REPORT OF AN  
AUTOMATIC RING  
FORTH... ONE OF THE  
HORSES REARS  
THROWING ITS BEAUTI-  
FUL RIDER...



LAUGHO!  
HE NEARLY  
KILLED THE  
GIRL!





















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